IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Peter LISEC

Application Branch

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

PROCESS FOR JOINING HOLLOW SECTION STRIPS BY WELDING

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 3 as follows:

--3. (amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ends of the hollow section strip(s) (1) are moved so close to one another during the welding process that the edges (7) touch one another.--

Amend claim 4 as follows:

--4. (amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the edges (7) are produced by machining at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s) (1).--

Amend claim 5 as follows:

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--5. (amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s)

(1) steps (6) are produced to form the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5).--

Amend claim 6 as follows:

--6. (amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s)

(1) grooves (11) are produced to form the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5).--

Amend claim 7 as follows:

--7. Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein when hollow section strip(s) (1) which are intended as spacers of insulating glass are joined or when the ends of a hollow section strip (1) which has been formed into a frame-like spacer are joined, the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5) of the ends of the hollow section strip(s) (1) to be joined to one another are produced on the surface (2) of the hollow section strip (1) which lies to the inside in the insulating glass.--

### REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

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Respectfully submitted,

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Βv

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### VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- 3. Process as claimed in claim 1-or 2, wherein the ends of the hollow section strip(s) (1) are moved so close to one another during the welding process that the edges (7) touch one another.
- 4. Process as claimed in <del>one of claims 1 to 3</del>, wherein the edges (7) are produced by machining at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s) (1).
- 5. Process as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4, wherein in at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s) (1) steps (6) are produced to form the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5).
- 6. Process as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4, wherein in at least one wall of the hollow section strip(s) (1) grooves (11) are produced to form the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5).
- 7. Process as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6, wherein when hollow section strip(s) (1) which are intended as spacers of insulating glass are joined or when the ends of a hollow section strip (1) which has been formed into a frame-like spacer are joined, the edges (7) which are set back relative to the end faces (5) of the ends of the hollow section strip(s) (1) to be joined to one another are produced on the surface (2) of the hollow section strip (1) which lies to the inside in the insulating glass.